

WASHINGTON CROP WEATHER

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Crop and Weather Information for the Week Ending June 24, 2001

WEEK IN BRIEF:

Cherry and strawberry harvest underway

Warm dry temperatures stress re-crops

FIELD CROPS

Warmer days, cooler nights and no precipitation stressed cereal crops, particularly re-crop grains. Some frost damage was reported in Lincoln County. Winter wheat was 98% headed and some blooming reported in central Washington. Christmas tree growers reported aphid infestation on noble firs. Turfgrass producers were irrigating due to lack of precipitation.

LIVESTOCK

Warm dry weather aided producers with first cutting hay harvest. Second cutting was underway in the central part of the state. Range and pastures were deteriorating from the lack of moisture. Range and pasture conditions were 4% very poor, 25% poor, 45% fair, and 26% good. Dairy's were irrigating forage fields. Irrigation water in Kittitas County is expected to be shut off in July.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Cherry harvest was underway with good yields being reported. Apple hand thinning continued. Strawberry harvest was about 50% completed, and with warmer temperatures Botrytis infection was down. Blueberry crop developing was in excellent condition and raspberry growers projecting a bumper crop. Corn and potatoes were completely emerged with good development. Direct market vegetable growers were harvesting for Farmers Markets. Green pea, rhubarb, lettuce and greenhouse tomatoes were being harvested, with asparagus harvest finishing up this week. Carrot and radishes for seed were blooming.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork	
This Week	Last Week
6.6	6.3

Soil Moisture	Soil Moisture and Supply			
	% Acreage			
Soil Type	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	15	27	58	-
Subsoil	13	45	42	-
Irrigation Water	-	10	90	-
Hay and Roughage	-	10	90	-

VS=Very Short, SH=Short, AD=Adequate, S=Surplus

Crop Progress				
Crop/Activity	% Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2000	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Headed	75	57	72	68
Winter Wheat Headed	98	92	97	98
Barley Headed	77	52	77	70
Corn Emerged	100	98	100	100
Dry Beans Planted	100	99	100	99
Alfalfa, 1 st cutting	95	89	90	86
Alfalfa, 2 nd cutting	16	0	19	19

Crop Condition *					
Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	7	41	50	-
Winter Wheat Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Spring Wheat Dryland	5	16	47	32	-
Spring Wheat Irrigated	-	-	5	95	-
Barley Dryland	4	15	48	33	-
Barley Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Dry Beans	-	-	-	100	-
Corn	-	-	-	100	-
Potato	-	-	5	95	-

VP=Very Poor, P=Poor, F=Fair, G=Good, EX=Excellent

* Crop conditions are a measure of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

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COUNTY COMMENTS

WESTERN

Grays Harbor: Sunny, warm conditions, early in the week, facilitated hay harvest. Dairymen started irrigating forage fields. Christmas tree growers reported aphid infestations on Noble fir. Sweet corn growers reported slow growth due to the lack of heat units. Direct market growers were busy harvesting early vegetables for sale at Farmer's Markets. Commercial blueberry growers reported deer damage to new growth. Commercial greenhouse tomato producers reported harvesting their first ripe tomatoes of the season. The heavy rain on Monday, alleviated most grower's drought concerns, at least temporarily.

Grays Harbor/Lewis: Timely rain for grain, peas, and corn was received. Rain in June usually means someone had hay down.

King/Pierce: Strawberry harvest was about 50 percent complete. Yields and quality were good. Early lettuce harvest was underway. Rhubarb harvest continued. Moderate rain

was received on Monday.

Pierce/Thurston: The weather was up and down, with a few hot days and a few cooler than normal days. Rain was heavy at times and above normal for this time of the year. There was a report of strawberry damage due to the heavy rain at the beginning of the week. There was also a report of prevented planting because of the heavy rain.

Thurston: Most hay producers delayed harvest activities due to forecasted rain, which never arrived. Those who took a risk and cut, managed to harvest premium quality hay. Very warm temperatures, in the early part of the week, had turfgrass growers and dairymen irrigating fields. Blueberry growers reported their crop looked excellent so far. Strawberry harvest was in full swing, with growers delighted with the dry weather which reduced botrytis infections. Raspberry growers are projecting a bumper crop, with initial harvest about two weeks away.

CENTRAL

Benton: Cherry harvest was reaching its peak, with average yields being reported. Labor availability was adequate so far. Asparagus harvest was nearly complete. Cover sprays, weed control, and irrigation were other activities.

Franklin: There were periods of cool temperatures and rain during the week. The second cutting of alfalfa was underway. Cherries were being harvested.

Grant: Dryland grain was stressed due to lack of rainfall. The second cutting of alfalfa was in progress. Sugar snap pea harvest was nearly complete and green pea harvest was underway. The cherry harvest began in the Mattawa region. The weather was generally favorable for irrigated crops.

Grant (2nd Report): Apple hand thinning was complete. Radishes and carrots for seed were

blooming. Green pea harvest continued. Wheat was blooming and some fields began to turn. The second cutting of alfalfa was in progress. Alfalfa seed was blooming and pollinators were placed in fields.

Kittitas: The first cutting of timothy hay was in full swing. The second cutting of alfalfa began. Sweet corn emerged, with cultivating now being done. Irrigation water supply was still short, with the KRD water expected to be shut off sometime in July.

Kittitas (2nd Report): The first cutting of alfalfa and timothy hay was wrapping up. Yields were good this year. Corn and potatoes emerged and were growing well. Pastures and rangeland continued to be in good condition. Producers were still fearing a lack of irrigation water in mid-summer.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 10 degrees below normal to 8 degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation on June 24. No crop losses were reported due to weather conditions.

was in full swing. The scattered showers in the county may have created some cherry cracking, but quick drying conditions minimized the problem. The growing conditions were great during the last couple of weeks for pome fruits. Pears measured 55 to 75 mm in length.

Yakima (2nd Report): Bing cherry harvest

EASTERN

Asotin & Garfield: Hot weather caused additional damage to all crops. Many producers cut their hay, and yields were less than half of normal. Grain crops were hurting for moisture and showing signs of stress. Pastures deteriorated due to the dry, hot weather.

Lincoln: Warm, dry weather persisted. Winter wheat was headed out with flowering occurring in the southern part of the county. Moisture was adequate for winter wheat, but deficient for the spring grain crops. Pastures were short due to continuing dry weather. Frost damage was still being reported on most crops, stemming from the cold temperatures

the third week in May. Frost damage was spotty. Additional rain is needed.

Whitman: Yields from the first cutting of hay were generally good across the county, but the adequacy of the hay supply for next winter was being questioned. This uncertainty regarding supply was driving prices up for all classes of baled forages. Recrop grain, particularly spring barley, continued to show the stress of dry conditions, while winter wheat—that followed summer fallow—looked reasonably good.

WEEKLY WEATHER STATISTICS

June 25, 2001

Station	Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days				Last Week Precipitation			Season Precipitation			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	Base 50F		Base 60F		Total			Total		% Normal	Days
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	Inches	DFN	Days	Inches	DFN		
WEST															
Bellingham	46	75	60	0	69	2	7	-5	0.00	-0.42	0	25.18	-8.06	76	136
Everett	49	72	58	-3	58	-15	5	-9	0.04	-0.42	1	23.23	-10.35	69	133
Hoquiam	47	72	57	-2	49	-7	0	-7	0.30	-0.15	1	41.84	-23.21	64	153
Kelso	45	82	61	1	79	4	19	-2	0.23	-0.23	1	18.94	-24.95	43	121
Olympia	37	84	58	-2	56	-12	10	-3	0.16	-0.19	1	29.33	-19.09	61	131
Seattle-Tacoma	49	79	60	-2	75	-8	17	-4	0.15	-0.20	1	23.31	-11.87	66	120
Shelton	44	82	59	-3	66	-16	13	-9	0.95	0.56	1	39.92	-22.76	64	138
Tacoma	43	84	60	-2	72	-10	12	-9	0.22	-0.19	1	25.08	-12.85	66	128
Vancouver	44	86	63	2	96	14	30	9	0.13	-0.22	1	22.06	-17.11	56	133
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	40	88	64	0	98	2	31	-4	0.00	-0.14	0	6.46	-1.80	78	69
Omak	47	94	68	6	125	34	55	23	0.00	-0.28	0	5.19	-7.94	40	57
Stampede Pass	38	75	54	5	38	18	7	7	0.11	-0.52	1	51.79	-25.72	67	158
Wenatchee	52	92	69	2	136	9	66	6	0.00	-0.14	0	4.98	-2.59	66	64
Yakima AP	41	95	66	0	111	0	43	-3	0.00	-0.13	0	3.98	-3.39	54	58
NORTHEAST															
Colville	43	93	65	3	108	20	40	10	0.00	-0.32	0	11.70	-7.36	61	71
Deer Park	36	88	61	-3	77	-15	17	-15	0.03	-0.25	1	12.27	-4.49	73	104
Spokane AP	41	89	65	2	103	8	37	4	0.00	-0.28	0	9.49	-5.45	64	90
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	48	95	69	-2	133	-6	63	-9	0.00	-0.07	0	4.81	-1.78	73	65
Moses Lake	47	94	68	-3	125	-14	55	-17	0.00	-0.07	0	6.10	-0.49	93	60
Quincy	47	93	69	3	135	14	65	12	0.00	-0.07	0	5.12	-2.05	71	56
Ritzville	38	92	65	1	104	7	42	7	0.00	-0.14	0	8.83	-1.57	85	71
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	48	100	72	0	156	-1	86	-2	0.00	-0.07	0	5.40	-0.56	91	58
Pasco	42	98	68	-3	129	-14	59	-15	0.00	-0.07	0	7.37	0.47	107	68
Pullman	37	85	61	0	77	2	18	-5	0.00	-0.34	0	11.69	-7.58	61	99
Walla Walla AP	48	94	69	-1	132	-3	62	-4	0.00	-0.21	0	14.87	-3.14	83	89
Whitman Mission	39	93	65	-3	108	-9	40	-11	0.00	-0.19	0	13.10	0.53	104	93
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'A'AP	43	88	64	-1	98	-2	33	-3	0.00	-0.44	0	14.96	-8.52	64	93
Lewiston ID	45	95	70	2	145	16	76	16	0.00	-0.28	0	10.43	-0.36	97	93

Summary based on NWS data.

Season CUMulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2000

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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